Inter-state migration of cattle

1360. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing problem of increasing inter-State migration of cattle because of fodder shortage, if so, the details thereof;

(b) by what percentage, according to the assessment, if any made by Government, population of livestock has increased between 1975-76 and 1984-85;

(c) what is the percentage of decrease in the area of grazing land and production of fodder during the above period;

(d) what is the anticipated rise in the livestock population and the demand of fodder by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(e) what are the major causes for decrease in the grazing land and fodder production other than the drought conditions and what is the short-term/long term programmes, if any, drawn up by Government to increase fodder production and also to use wasteland to meet the requirement with the growth of livestock population to check inter-state migration of cattle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Yes, Sir. Inter-State migration of cattle do take place in the face of fodder scarcity due to drought. No statistics in this regard, however, is available.

(b) The livestock population increased by 18.7 per cent from 1972 to 1982 as per the livestock censuses conducted in those years.

(c) During 1972-73 and 1982-83, the areas under permanent pastures and other grazing lands were 12.71 and 11.96 million hectares respectively, thus there is a decrease in the grazing land by about 6 per cent. However, there has been an increase in the areas under fodder crops by about 21 per cent i.e. from 6.94 million hectares in 1972-73 to 8.43 million hectares in 1982-83.

(d) Anticipated annual rise in the livestock population and demand for fodder by the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan will be about 1.7 per cent.

(e) With an expanding population, more and more grazing areas have been brought under cultivation of food crops. The following long and short-term steps have been initiated for increasing fodder production in the country:

(i) production/distribution of seeds and planting materials of high yielding and nutritive fodder varieties;

(ii) transfer of technology regarding scientific fodder production/conservation through extension and training;

(iii) popularistion of quality fodder production through mini-kit distribtuion/conducting demonstration in farmers' fields;

(iv) evolution of high yielding fodder varieties through research for maximising fodder production.

Damaged statues of Indian Leaders in the custody of CPWD

1361. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain statues of prominent Indian leaders collected by the CPWD for competitive exhibitions which are in its custody for over a year, have been very badly damaged and broken;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the result of the inquiry, if any conducted by Government into the callous handling of the objects to fix responsibility stating the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No. However, maquettes, models made of clay; wax or plaster of paris, were invited from the sculptors for awarding the work for preparation of the statues. During their transit to Delhi some of them were slightly damaged. They were got repaired by experts in the National Museum.

(b) and (c) The damaged maquettes were photographed and the record is available. No inquiry was considered necessary in view of the facts mentioned above.

Scarcity of water in Kopargaon

1362. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 29th June, 1987 regarding distribution of drinking water on ration cards in Kopargaon town in Ahmednagar district due to acute water scarcity; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) Material had been called for from the Government of Maharashtra and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Visit of World Bank team to irrigation projects in Orissa

1363. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank Team after visiting certain irrigation projects in Orissa financed by the Bank have expressed its dissatisfaction at the delay in the execution of the project and lack of safety regulations in the irrigation dams endangering the lives and property of the people living down-stream;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) A World Bank team has made some observations on the delay in the implementation as well as safety measures adopted in some of the Bank assisted Medium Irrigation Projects in Orisa. A team of officers of the Central Water Commission have visited the projects and have suggested remedial measures for speeding up the implementation. The Dam Review Panel which visited all the projects has however, not indicated that the dams are unsafe. They have however, suggested that the hydrology should be reviewed. The Central Water Commission's Review Mission has suggested some special safety measures on which follow up action is being taken by the State Government.

Freight equalisation

1364. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2392 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 28th November, 1986 and state:

(a) whether Government have finally decided to abandon the scheme in view of objections raised